PATENT APPLICATION

## 00862.023438

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## TRANSMITTAL FOR INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the concurrently submitted Form PTO/SB/08a. Copies of the foreign patent publications are provided.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed, in part, to make of record documents cited in the March 3, 2008 Office Action in the corresponding Japanese application. A copy of the Office Action is also submitted.

The concise explanation of relevance for the non-English documents may be found, *inter alia*, in the English language translations or abstracts attached thereto. In addition, the concise explanation of relevance for JP 2002-074316 and JP 2002-073572 may be found in related U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0049682 A1. JP 2001-147231 was previously submitted by Applicant with only its English language abstract. A full translation of this document is now provided.

## CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the concurrently submitted PTO/SB/08a be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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